DETAILS OF AIRCRAFT
Airbus B-737 aircraft
(US$ in Million)

REGN. NO.	DATE OF DELIVERY	PURCHASE PRICE
VT-ECP	26.9.74	5.474
VT-ECS	13.11.74	5.474
VT-EDR	8.10.75	6.087
VT-EDS	15.10.75	6.087
VT-EFK	10.11.77	8.017
VT-EFM	8.12.77	8.017
VT-EGD	16.06.80	10.268
VT-EGE	14.07.80	10.542
VT-EGF	21.07.80	10.542
VT-EGG	13.08.80	10.542
VT-EGH	18.02.81	11.134
VT-EGI	23.09.81	11.665
VT-EGJ	30.09.81	11.665
VT-EGM	18.03.81	12.541
VT-EHE	04.08.82	13.800
VT-EHF	21.08.82	13.800
VT-EHG	18.08.82	13.800
VT-EHH	08.09.82	13.800

Exodus of Pilots and Engineers from IA

3103. *SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:* Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of pilots and engineers who left Indian Airlines and joined Air Taxi Operators during the last one year and so far during the current year;

(b) what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measure Government propose to take/have taken to stop the exodus?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) 40 pilots and 29 engineers left Indian Airlines in 1993 and 16 pilots and 16 engineers have left in 1994 (till 1st of August), due to the following reasons:—

(i) Personal/domestic reasons.

(ii) Prevailing conditions in IA

(iii) Given no reason.

The exact number of pilots and engineers who have joined Air Taxi Operators is not known, as none of them expressed such an intention in their resignation letters.

(c) The following steps have been taken to check exodus of pilots and engineers from Indian Airlines:—

(i) Director General of Civil Aviation has directed all Air Taxi Operators in the country not to employ any employee of the national carriers without a 'No Objection Certificate' from the employer.

(ii) As per amended service regulations of Indian Airlines, an employee can resign from the service of the company only after giving six months' notice in writing, and the provision for depositing pay in lieu of notice has been withdrawn.

(iii) A trainee pilot has to execute a bond for Rs. 10 lakhs to serve the company for a minimum of 10 years, after initial training and ten years after every conversion/ edorsement.

(iv) Two settlements one of Flight Duty Time Limitations and the other on Productivity linked payments have been signed with Indian Commercial Pilots' Association, by which the emoluments of pilots have been increased in return for increased flying hours.

Increase in air-fares by Indian Airlines and Air India

3104. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines and the Air India have lately increased or propose to increase the air-fares, and also to narrow down the difference between the fares of 'J' class and 'Y' class;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the reasons therefor; and

(c) what additional passenger facilities are proposed to be provided to passengers with the hike in fares?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) *AIR INDIA*

Air India and all International Airlines have jointly increased International airfares from

India by 6% on all routes between 1st April, 1994 and July, 1994 except for the INDIA/ USA, CANADA route, on which the increase has been

(i) VIA PACIFIC : 20% from 1.4.94

(ii) VIA ATLANTIC : 5% to 7.5% from 1.4.94

Air India has no proposal to narrow down the difference between "J" Class and "Y" class normal fares. At present the "J" Class International fares throughout the world are generally at 115% of "Y" Class normal fares.

On the domestic sectors, Air India follows the fare levels charged by Indian Airlines.

The reasons for increase in International Airfares are as under:—

(1) Increase in the cost of operation which inter alia would include cost of landing parking, navigational fees, handling charges, cost of fuel etc.

(2) Currency devaluation.

(3) Need to remove directional imbalance in international fares.

(4) To adjust fare level so as to remove fare disparities and anamolies.

INDIAN AIRLINES

Indian Airlines has increased its Rupee fares for domestic travel from 10% to 20% with effect from 25th July, 1994. The fare differential between "Y" class and "J" class has been maintained.

The reason for increasing the fares was due to all round increase in the cost of operations. The fare increase was done in order to partially offset the increase in the cost of operations.

(c) With effect from 1st August, 1994, the slabwise cancellation charges have been removed by Indian Airlines and passengers can cancel their booking upto one hour before the scheduled departure of the flight. A refund fee of Rs. 100/-will be levied in case of refund or reissuance of domestic tickets. Indian Airlines has also provided 50% discount to senior citizens who have attained the age of 65 years, subject to stay at the destination for a minimum of seven days.

Discount to senior citizens and abolition of cancellation charges in IA

3105. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Airlines have decided to provide a 50% discount to senior citizens and also to abolish cancellation charges on domestic travel;

(b) if so, what is the age limit for availing of the discount;

(c) whether there are any conditions for the non-application of the cancellation charges; and

(d) from what date the above proposals will be effective?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir:

(b) 50% discount is available to the senior citizens who have attained the age of 65 years and above.

(c) No cancellation charges are levied on Rupee Fare tickets for domestic services, when cancellation is done upto one hour before the scheduled flight departure. A refund fee of Rs. 100/- is levied in lieu of cancellation charges in case of refund or reissuance.

(d) The proposals took effect from 1st August, 1994.

ITDC tie-up with Ramada Inn Group

3106. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that India Tourism Development Corporation is planning to tie-up with the global hotel chain, the Ramada Inn Group, for marketing its hotels abroad; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) ITDC is exploring possibilities of marketing tie-ups with internationally reputed hotel chains including Ramada Inn Group for its ELITE hotels.